

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

AND THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received between the 1st and the 5th of May, 1869.

The *Gwalior Gazette*, of the 18th of April, opens with the account of some religious ceremony at the Gwalior Durbar, during which 100 brahmins will read sacred writings for the space of a month, and 200 will be daily fed.

Referring to the scarcity, it is said that the Maharajah proceeded in person in one direction, and sent his Dewan in another; it is further said that His Highness was much grieved and pained at what he discovered; but said that "what was done could not be helped;" the Maharajah had no power to prevent what had happened; it was God's will, and the only thing to be done was to look to future arrangements, &c., &c.

The *Dubduba Secundree*, of the 24th of April, after news from English papers, mentions that overtures of peace are being made between the Maharajah of Joudpore and the Marwar Thakoors; it is expected that this will soon be effected. The writer says "we hear that certain conditions are being drawn out, and when completed the Maharajah will make over the Government to his sons. Had the rebels in the first instance been well looked after, we are sure that this state of things would not have happened. It is said that the pay of the troops and the servants of the State are in arrears

to the extent of four years pay; and it is also said that Colonel Keatinge has had a lakh of rupees given towards the settlement of these claims, in order to save the State from the accusation of mismanagement, and in this instance Colonel Keatinge's work is deserving of high praise," &c., &c.

"It is said that Mulhar Rao and the Chief of Baroda have become reconciled, and the former will be set at liberty. The fact, however, is that Sir Seymour Fitzgerald has interested himself in this from the bottom of his heart, and is said to have himself spoken to the Baroda Chief, and had the conditions all drawn out; but, we are sorry to say that Mulhar Rao most decidedly refused to agree to them, and, with great warmth of temper, threw the paper aside, at the same time using very harsh language towards the Baroda Chief, and the result is that Sir S. Fitzgerald has washed his hands of the case."

The *Sadiq-ool Ukhbar*, of the 24th of April, and the *Kar-nama Hind* of the 26th do not require special notice.

The *Oudh Ukhbar*, of the 27th of April, extracts largely from English papers, and alludes to the case of Mr. Tayler, in the High Court, as also to the *Englishman's* part in the affair.

It is said that in Mouzah Kai, in the Gonda district, some children were playing: one was acting the part of Commissioner, another Deputy Commissioner, a third a sepahi, accompanied by a large assemblage of troops and people. One boy was made to play the part of a criminal, and after trial was convicted, condemned to death, and actually hanged. The case is said to have been sent up to the sessions.

"The Sirdar Mahomed Yakooob Khan, Vice-regent of Cabul, is in very great grief, at the Ameer having taken his young son, the Sirdar Abdulla Khan, with him into Hindoosthan, and then receiving a *khillut* from the English; he has called upon one Wulleedad Khan, a regular tyrant, to create a disturbance; let's see how the life of this young boy is saved."

The case of some pensioner, in receipt of Rs. 3-5-0 per month, is noticed. It is said that this person committed theft, and was imprisoned, and consequently absent when the pay was distributed. "After the expiration of his term of imprisonment, the pensioner went for his pension, and was asked why he had not been present when the pensions were paid; he told the truth, how he had been imprisoned for theft, so the officer, to mark his sense of the disgrace, cut him one rupee per month, with the intimation that all pensioners should be served in the like manner, and that for a greater fault their pensions should altogether cease." The editor of the *Oudh Ukhbar* considers it strange that the name of the place where this happened is not mentioned.

A Bangalore correspondent of the *Oudh Ukhbar* states, that since the British rule has been established, there has been one chief officer bearing the title of Commissioner for the territories of the Maharajah of Mysore, and as it is usual to call such officer Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent, no one cared to change the title, but always, when addressing the Chief Commissioner in writing, a separate letter was written to the Commissioner, Mysore, in consequence of which the former Governor-General ordered the designation to be "the Commissioner, Mysore, and so for many years this title has been the acknowledged one."

Allusion is made to a case of bribery in Hyderabad, Deccan, the principal actor in which is one Moulvie Ahmed Ali Sahib, Meer Muftis in the Appeal Department. This case has, it is said, been investigated by a jury, and the result is a sentence of seven years' imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50,000, or three years' additional imprisonment if the fine is not paid. The Moulvie Jemal-ood-deen, of another department, has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 25,000, or two years' more in default of payment; while the third moulvie has 3 years' imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 12,000, or one year more, &c.

The fall of a wonderful block of ice is mentioned as having occurred in the southern district of the Nizam's territory. It is said to have been five hundred yards long, eight yards wide, and occupied a whole week to melt; when melted, there was found under it a snake, two hares, and a deer. The editor adds that although he finds it "difficult to believe this story, still, with God, all is possible."

The *Ukmil-ool Ukhbar*, of the 28th of April, does not require special notice.

The *Zea-ool Ukhbar*, of the 1st of May, mentions that a prisoner in the jail at Seharunpore is said to have told the jailor that he knew of a plan by which, if he was allowed to put it into execution, he would make over the country of Cashmere to the British Government in half an hour. The prisoner's name is Nanuk. The Superintendent laughed, and said "don't trouble yourself, the country of Cashmere is even now in the hands of Government; set quiet in this mansion of yours."

The *Oordoo Delhi Gazette*, of the 1st of May, is principally occupied with extracts from other papers, English and vernacular. The occurrence of numerous murders of children for the sake of their ornaments, in the district of Agra, is noticed: particulars of a recent case are given.

The *Bhiddia Bilass*, of the 17th of April, mentions, on the authority of a correspondent at Umritsur, that the enforcement of the wheel tax has given great dissatisfaction in that city. "To the rich this tax is not worthy of a thought, but to those who gain their livelihood by their wheeled conveyances, it is a hardship. The hope is that if the authorities will look to this, they may be the means of averting much suffering."

The same paper, of the 24th of April, does not require particular notice, being made up chiefly of extracts. A brief

history of the late Dost Mahomed Khan is given, and the reception of Colonel Showers, Resident at Gwalior, by the Maharajah of Cashmere is noticed.

The *Mujm-ool Ukhbar*, of the 18th of April, the *Ukhbar Alum* of the 29th, the *Abhayat Hind* of the 1st of May, and the *Khair Khwah Punjab*, of the same date, do not require special notice.

The *Mujm-ool Bharain*, of the 29th of April, publishes the following:—"Between Bokhara and the river Amoo the Emperor of Russia has directed the construction of a bridge, at the cost of one lakh of rupees: and Cabul papers have confirmed the report that the Hazratt Nasur-ood-deen, King of Persia, has given aid to Russia."

The *Punjabee Ukhbar*, of the 30th of April, notices the departure of the Ameer from Peshawur towards Cabul; a large assemblage of Europeans and natives having been present to see him off. "The Ameer is said to be extremely delighted with the British soldier, and has informed his officers that his own troops shall be disciplined like them. Many people have gone with the Ameer from Peshawur as servants; when the Ameer arrives in Cabul, an attack will be made by him on Balkh."

Lalla Mohun Lall, treasurer of the Sudder Goojrat, who is said to be ever alive to the welfare of the people, comes in for praise for having constructed a water-mill on the Chenab river, which, for a week, will grind grain without payment, but afterwards at an anna per maund. "This benefit, conferred upon the poor, is deserving of notice."

The *Friend of India* is quoted concerning the appointment of a "proper working sahib, for the management of Cabul, Turkisthan, &c., after the expiration of Sir Donald Macleod's term of office, or in ten months' time."

The *Moscow Gazette*, is quoted as follows:—"It has been made known settled thing between the Russian and Indian Go-

vernments that a Russian agent will reside either at Peshawur or Lahore, and on the side of Government there will be an agent in Tashkund, who will be under the Russian government.

The *Allygurh Institute Gazette*, of the 30th of April, calls upon its contributors, &c., for assistance in the shape of articles, &c.

The editor draws attention to the fact that copies of his paper are opened by the officials of the post-office through those hands they pass, and after perusal are then forwarded on. The editor threatens an indictment if this practice is persisted in.

It is said that Rajah Jeykishen Dass Bahadoor has placed the services of a pundit at the disposal of the Allygurh High School, pending the result of an application to Government for the appointment of a pundit, as a part of the regular establishment, "the study of Sanscrit and Hindee being more popular in the school than that of Arabic and Persian."

The *Noor-ool Ubsar*, of the 1st of May, the *Lawrence Gazette* of the 1st, and the *Benares Gazette* of the 5th of April do not call for special notice.

The *Benares Gazette*, of the 19th of April, alludes to some slight the King of Persia is said to have received from the Turkish Government; "the reason is that the King of Bagdad is exercising great tyranny over the Persian pilgrims to 'Najaf Ushruf,' &c., who are said to be heavily taxed, besides being often plundered by Arabs and Turks; letters have frequently been addressed to the Sultan on this subject, asking him to bring the Chief of Bagdad to book for this, and to compensate the people for the losses they have sustained; to send back all criminals who have taken shelter in his territories or to punish them himself. The King of Persia also published a proclamation, warning all in his territories against going into the country of the Turks, and troops were ordered to be kept

in readiness. The reply is anxiously looked for, as if it is what is required, well and good, otherwise there will certainly be war between the Persians and Turks.

The *Malwa Ukhbar*, of the 28th of April, the *Koh-i-Noor*, of the 1st of May, and the *Meerut Gazette* of the 1st, do not require special notice.

The *Rahnoomai Punjab*, of the 30th of April, furnishes an extract from the *Sirkaree Ukhbar*, with the heading "how much the authorities encourage education in Hind," in which is republished some remarks made by Sir Alexander Grant to Sir Stafford Northcote on the subject, as follows:— "The Hindoostanees of the day are the children of those Hindoos of whose talents and learning the *Bengalee Ukhbar* has so forcibly written, and it is becoming daily more plain that their natural worth and good qualities are not inferior to their ancestors. It is the sacred duty of a Government in ruling the people to exert and interest itself in teaching them both knowledge and wisdom, and to see that the colleges be supplied with first-rate teachers; that men should be selected from the English Universities to fill the posts of masters," &c. The writer adds that if this be really the desire of Government, it should be duly appreciated, and that it is the duty of Government to complete what it has begun so well for the benefit of the people of the country. Sir A. Grant has also stated in his letter that just now educational establishments cannot be expected to be maintained at the expense of the people, but advises that the authorities give some thought to Normal schools for the education of Hindoostanee teachers, &c., &c.

The *Julwatore*, of the 4th of May, publishes an article pointing out the evil manners and customs of Hindoostan, with the avowed object of drawing attention to, and lessening them. The writer more particularly points to the custom of keeping women uneducated and ignorant, and so prejudiced as not to listen to advice. Secondly, without weighing the

advantages and disadvantages, to follow the customs of their ancestors; thirdly, to show too much love for their country; and although the results might be highly beneficial, to display an unwillingness to travel; fourthly, to continue ignorant of the religion and customs of other countries; fifthly, to look upon lying and deceit as wisdom; sixthly, to seek alms and eat without working for their salt; seventhly, to fly kites, fight cocks, and allow their life to be passed in such profitless amusements; ninthly, to look upon idleness and ignorance as most respectable; tenthly, to indulge in alchemy; eleventhly, to fear evil spirits; twelfthly, to make money dishonestly, and in any evil way, and to spend it among parasites extravagant in speech. "There are many other things that can be brought forward, all of which are the result of ignorance and want of education." The writer concludes by calling upon his countrymen to lose no time in educating their native females.

The *Ukkbar Benares*, of the 22nd of April, alludes to some emissary from Nepal having gone to China with presents, but when within about a month's journey of his destination, he was stopped in consequence of some disturbances. The Emperor of China mercifully prevented him from proceeding beyond, and after an interchange of civilities, the emissary returned to Nepal all safe."

Complaints are made concerning the frequent thefts near Benares, where the jathrees go; there is said to be no police arrangements; and that within five miles of Benares, people will be all ruined if the *Sirkar* (Government) does not see to it.

The same paper, of the 29th of April, under the heading "Madras" says that an order has been passed for the demolition of all forts at that presidency, and, it is added that the people will derive considerable benefit or comfort from

this measure. "The hope is that treasure may be discovered in demolishing these old forts, as those who built them must have expended *crores* of rupees on the work."

A letter to the editor of this paper mentions that a very wealthy *Nagreen* having died, his head-man took possession of the wealth, upon which one or two of his relations said, "this is property to which there is no heir; let us divide it." He replied, "after the one year's religious rites, it shall be so with what is left of the property." The head-man also died during this time, and now his *miri* (woman) is taking possession of it, and the others are disputing her right to it. A well-wisher, who gave notice of this to Government, represented something by which the case was dismissed, but it ought to be enquired into, and the real facts be made known. Another well-wisher intended to tell all about it, but he was prevented from doing so by gifts," &c., &c.

It is also noticed that "in the 'kaithee well' some property was found and made away with unknown to Government; independent of this there was bloodshed, and the culprit was not arrested. This was not formerly the case at Benares, but now if Government well-wishers give notice to the authorities of what is going on, liars bring up false charges against them and gain the day, while good men and the well-wishers of Government are ruined. In consequence of this, many things in the shape of news never reach the Government; but as editor of this paper it is only right that you should publish it, in order that Government may be made aware of the fact."

The *Jagat Sumachar*, of the 26th of April, does not contain anything requiring particular notice.

The following vernacular newspapers have been examined in this Report, viz:—

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.		WHEN RECEIVED.	
			1869.		1869.	
1	Gwalior Gazette, ...	Gwalior, ...	April	18th	May	1st
2	Dubduba Sekundree, ...	Rampoor, ...	"	24th	"	1st
3	Sadiq-ool Ukhbar, ...	Bhawulpoor, ...	"	24th	"	1st
4	Karnama Hind, ...	Lucknow, ...	"	26th	"	1st
5	Oudh Ukhbar, ...	Ditto, ...	"	27th	"	1st
6	Ukmil-ool Ukhbar, ...	Delhi, ...	"	28th	"	1st
7	Zea-ool Ukhbar, ...	Ditto, ...	May	1st	"	1st
8	Oordoo Delhi Gazette, ...	Agra, ...	"	1st	"	1st
9	Bhiddia Bilass, ...	Jummoo, ...	April	17th	"	2nd
10	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	24th	"	2nd
11	Nujm-ool Ukhbar, ...	Meerut, ...	"	28th	"	2nd
12	Ukhbar Alum, ...	Ditto, ...	"	29th	"	2nd
13	Ab-i-Hyat Hind, ...	Agra, ...	May	1st	"	2nd
14	Khair Khwah Punjab, ...	Goojranwalla, ...	"	1st	"	2nd
15	Mujm-ool Bharain, ...	Loodiana, ...	April	29th	"	3rd
16	Punjabee Ukhbar, ...	Lahore, ...	"	30th	"	3rd
17	Allygurh Institute Gazette, ...	Allygurh, ...	"	30th	"	3rd
18	Noor-ool Ubsar, ...	Allahabad, ...	May	1st	"	3rd
19	Lawrence Gazette, ...	Meerut, ...	"	1st	"	3rd
20	Benares Gazette, ...	Benares, ...	April	5th	"	4th
21	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	19th	"	4th
22	Malwa Ukhbar, ...	Indore, ...	"	28th	"	4th
23	Koh-i-Noor, ...	Lahore, ...	May	1st	"	4th
24	Meerut Gazette, ...	Meerut, ...	"	1st	"	4th
25	Rahnoomai Punjab, ...	Sealkote, ...	April	30th	"	5th
26	Jubwatore, ...	Meerut, ...	May	4th	"	5th
27	Benares Ukhbar, ...	Benares, ...	April	22nd	"	4th
28	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	29th	"	4th
29	Jagat Samaahar, ...	Meerut, ...	"	26th	"	4th
30	(Murdhurmint not received),					

(True translation.)

GEORGE WAGENTREIBER,

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Upper India.